

**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

DG 11-045

NORTHERN UTILITIES, INC.

2011 Summer Period Cost of Gas Adjustment

ORDER OF NOTICE

On March 15, 2011, Northern Utilities, Inc. (Northern) filed with the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission (Commission) its proposed cost of gas (COG) rates for the summer period, May 1, 2011 through October 31, 2011. Included in the filing were revised tariff pages, and supporting materials for the changed rates. The petition and subsequent docket filings, other than information for which confidential treatment is requested of or granted by the Commission, will be posted to the Commission's website at <http://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docket/2011/11-045.htm>.

The proposed residential COG rate is \$0.6354 per therm, a \$0.0491 per therm decrease from the weighted residential COG rate of \$0.6845 per therm for last summer. The proposed changes to Northern's residential COG rate and current local delivery adjustment clause rate are expected to decrease a typical residential heating customer's summer bill by approximately \$11, or 2.6 percent, compared to last summer.

The proposed commercial/industrial low winter use COG rate is \$0.5697 per therm and the proposed commercial/industrial high winter use COG rate is \$0.6878 per therm. The rate decrease for the commercial/industrial customers from the comparable rates for last summer is commensurate with the residential COG rate decrease.

The filing raises, inter alia, issues related to: RSA 378 relative to the justness and reasonableness of rates, forecasting of sales, supplier prices and transportation prices, calculation of indirect gas costs, purchasing decisions related to the current and past summer supplies and capacity, revenue projections related to transportation services and released capacity, the causes and treatment of over and under recoveries, and the reconciliation of prior period costs and revenues. Each party has the right to have an attorney represent the party at the party's own expense.

Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby

ORDERED, that a hearing be held before the Commission located at 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire on April 19, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.; and it is

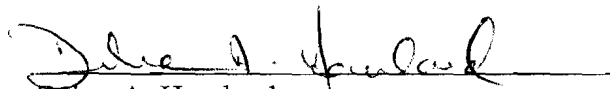
FURTHER ORDERED, that Northern, the Staff of the Commission and any Intervenors hold a Technical Session at the Commission on April 12, 2011 at 9:00 a.m.; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.12, Northern shall notify all persons desiring to be heard at this hearing by publishing a copy of this Order of Notice no later than March 26, 2011, in a newspaper with general circulation in those portions of the state in which operations are conducted, publication to be documented by affidavit filed with the Commission on or before April 19, 2011; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.17, any party seeking to intervene in the proceeding shall submit to the Commission seven copies of a Petition to Intervene with copies sent to Northern and the Office of the Consumer Advocate on or before April 13, 2011, such Petition stating the facts demonstrating how its rights, duties, privileges, immunities or other substantial interest may be affected by the proceeding, as required by N.H. Code Admin. Rule Puc 203.17 and RSA 541-A:32, I(b); and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that any party objecting to a Petition to Intervene make said Objection on or before April 19, 2011.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this twenty-second day of March, 2011.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Debra A. Howland", is written over a horizontal line.

Debra A. Howland
Executive Director

Individuals needing assistance or auxiliary communication aids due to sensory impairment or other disability should contact the Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator, NHPUC, 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire 03301-2429; 603-271-2431; TDD Access: Relay N.H. 1-800-735-2964. Notification of the need for assistance should be made one week prior to the scheduled event,
